



PHOTO: STAR

City Awami League President Mohammad Hanif speaks at a rally at Bangabandhu Avenue yesterday protesting filing of chargesheet against Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina in frigate purchase case.

Students, guardians unhappy with JU teachers' politics

JU CORRESPONDENT

General students of the Jahangirnagar University (JU) and their guardians have expressed dissatisfaction at and severely criticised the teachers' politics that disrupted the students' academic life seriously.

In the last one and a half years, the teachers resorted to movements several times to press for their various demands, causing a session jam of seven more months.

Earlier, the students had already been confronting six months' session jam.

"The teachers should be more conscious about the country, especially about the university, as it is the brain of the country. They should practise idealistic politics without disrupting the academic activities," said Minhaz, a third year student of English department.

The thorny issues of teachers' politics came to a head after Prof. Jasim Uddin Ahmed took over as the vice-chancellor in November 2001. The pro-BNP teachers split into two factions — one led by Prof. Jasim Uddin and the other by Prof. Mustahidur Rahman. And the students become the victims of such politics.

The division of teachers led to an agitation with demands for elections of the VC panel, senate, syndicate and dean.

The Jahangirnagar University Teachers' Association (JUTA) went on strike several times last year to press

home their 11-point demand including VC panel election.

In the wake of the indefinite strike, the VC held the election to syndicate on November 18 last year.

The JUTA enforced the strike for 52 days to press for its demands, but the VC panel election is yet to be held.

The chancellor appointed Prof. Jasim Uddin Ahmed as vice-chancellor under the 11(2) Section of Jahangirnagar University act, 1973. The act requires that VC panel election should be held within 45 days of the

Committee on pvt universities meets

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The high-level committee formed to study the problems of the private universities held its first meeting yesterday with Prof. Dr. M Asaduzzaman, chairman of University Grants Commission (UGC), in the chair.

The committee discussed various aspects of the private universities such as basic facilities, system of education, tuition fee, number of teachers and their qualifications and relations between the members of the board of governors and the vice-chancellors.

The committee will submit its recommendation to the government within three months after an investigation into the problems.

appointment of VC.

"The teachers are abusing politics for personal benefit. While one group is enforcing agitation programme, the other is trying to grab power. This is because of the teachers following in the footsteps of the mainstream political parties. But they should be individual in their thinking," said Meherun Nesa, a guardian.

"The teachers should enforce a sound way of politics. They could arrange a silent but strong movement by holding discussions and seminars on their demands or submitting memorandum to the authorities," said a student of government and politics department, preferring anonymity.



MA Khan's death anniversary today

The 19th death anniversary of Rear Admiral Mahbub Ali Khan, former navy chief and minister for communications and agriculture, will be observed today, says a press release.

Elaborate programme has been taken to observe the day. The programmes include laying of wreaths at the Banani graveyard, Quran Khwani, distribution of sweets in orphanages and special prayers in city mosques after Zohr prayers.

A Milad Mahfil will be held at "Mahbub Bhaban" at House # 40, Road # 05, Dhanmondi R/A, at 7.15 pm.

Relatives, friends, admirers, and colleagues of MA Khan have been requested to attend the milad.

Rear Admiral MA Khan Memorial Committee, Sylhet & UK, has also chalked out various programmes including milad mahfil, special prayers and distribution of food to the poor on the Darga premises of Hazrat Shah Jalal (R).

Bangladesh Navy will arrange milad mahfil at all its bases in Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Kaptai and Mongla.

Surovi, a voluntary organisation, will also hold a milad.

Sixth Asia Pacific Employers' Confce in city from Dec 1

BSS, Dhaka

A delegation of Bangladesh Employers' Association led by its President M Anis Ud Dowla met State Minister for Labour and Employment Aman Ullah Aman at his office here yesterday.

The members of the delegation informed the state minister that the sixth Asia Pacific High level Employers' Conference would be held in Dhaka from December 1 to 3.

Delegates from Australia, Bangladesh, China, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Guinea, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and

Vietnam are likely to attend the conference.

Besides, representatives from International Labour Organisation (ILO), International Organisation of Employers (IOE) and Japan Business Federation (JBF) will participate in the conference.

The Chief of Toyota Motor Company will also attend the conference, according to an official press release.

The delegation members included Vice Chairman of the Association Kamran T Rahman, Secretary General C K Hyder and members Golam Mainuddin, Neaz Rahim, Rokeya A Rahman and Alamgir Rahman.

Frigate purchase case Jalil denounces implication of Hasina

UNB, Dhaka

Awami League General Secretary Abdul Jalil on Monday denounced the implication of opposition leader Sheikh Hasina in the frigate purchase case and termed the charges against the former prime minister "false and baseless".

In a statement, Jalil said the truth beneath this "false case" would be unveiled in a neutral court of law.

The Bureau of Anti-Corruption (BAC) on Sunday pressed charges against former prime minister Sheikh Hasina and five others in a corruption case concerning purchase of a navy frigate from the Republic of Korea.

The AL general secretary strongly condemned the indictment saying it was a case of "heinous political vengeance."

"In fact, the BNP-Jamaat alliance government is filing repressive and false cases one after another to protect itself from public outrage at its misrule as well as to divert public attention."

He said the then BNP government circulated tender for purchase of

frigate for Bangladesh Navy in 1995-96. Later, Awami League came to power and continued the process in a bid to strengthen the country's defence.

"The Awami League government saved crores of taka by purchasing the frigate from South Korean Daewoo Company at a price lower than the international market price and with utmost transparency through state to state negotiations," Jalil claimed.

He said the frigate was purchased at the "lowest price of \$99 million" by calling international tender and following all rules and procedures through DGTP of the Armed Forces which looks after purchase matters of the armed forces.

"This purchase process was explained to all senior officers of the Navy headquarters. The frigate took 36 months to be built. During the purchase and construction, four expert teams filed reports expressing their satisfaction and six expert officers of Bangladesh Navy looked after the construction at the Daewoo dockyard," Jalil said.

We want to establish Islam in democratic way: Nizami

UNB, Dhaka

Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Matiur Rahman Nizami yesterday refuted an international campaign linking his party with attacks on minority communities in Bangladesh and said Jamaat does not believe in establishing Islamic rule overnight by violent means.

"We're not in a haste to establish Islam... We're not in the government to establish Islam... We want to establish Islam with the support of all in a democratic way," said Nizami, also Industries Minister of the coalition government, during exchange of views with OCAB members at Hotel Purbani.

The meet with the journalists representing foreign media was organised by the Jamaat to make its politico-ideological position clear against the backdrop of the allegations, specially by a top leader of the West Bengal state of India.

Besides, the remarks of West Bengal Chief Minister Buddha Dev Bhattacharya in an interview with a Dhaka daily, also came into reference in a report published by the London-based Guardian that Jamaat leaders and workers went violent attacking members of the religious minorities.

In his interview, published on July 27, Basu was quoted as saying: "Jamaat attacks have

always been dangerous. After election that has turned into barbaric."

And on July 21 the Guardian ran a report by John Vidal that said despite being involved in crimes, Jamaat men were not accused.

"These are all baseless and motivated campaigns... Even Jamaat's political enemy will not be able to prove that members of Hindu, Buddhist and Christian communities were tortured or repressed by any Jamaat leader or worker," Nizami said.

In reply to a question, Nizami said his party joined the government not for establishing Islam but to protect the country from political evil forces and conspiracies.

Asked about acceptance of women's leadership by Jamaat, he avoided a direct reply and said this question would come only when a complete Islamic system would be established in Bangladesh.

Asked about his party's stand on possible export of gas to India, Nizami reserved his comment, saying that the matter was not yet discussed in any forum of the government.

On controversy over the books of Maulana Maududi, he also refrained from making any comment, saying that he does not take it into cognizance.



PHOTO: STAR

Communication Minister Nazmul Huda speaks at a press conference of Ainjibi Oikya Parishad at the Supreme Court Bar Association hall yesterday. The Oikya Parishad has been protesting the 'court boycott' programme.

3 new hospitals in city in next three years

BSS, Dhaka

The government yesterday decided to establish three new hospitals in capital Dhaka within the next three years, health ministry sources said.

The 500-bed hospitals would be established at populous areas in the city under three-year Health Nutrition and Population Sector Programme (HNPS) that begins in January next involving Tk over 9,600 crore.

It was decided at the first meeting on programme implementation policies of the HNPS at the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khondoker Mosharrar Hossain chaired the meeting, which was also attended by State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Mizanur Rahman Sinha, Health Secretary Mohammad Fazlur Rahman, Additional Secretary Mohammad Lutfar Rahman and officials concerned.

A senior official of the ministry said the sites for the hospitals are

yet to be finalised. He, however, hinted that the most populous areas of Mirpur, Bashabo/ Khilgaon and Kurmitola were being considered as most prospective areas for the proposed hospitals.

Health Minister asked the authorities concerned to finalise the sites of the hospitals as well as to start construction of those as early as possible.

He also urged ministry officials to implement the HNPS in a far better way compared to the Tk around 15,000 crore Health and Population Sector Programme (HSP), which has become counter productive in last years. The HSP was scheduled to end in June last, but later was extended for 6 months till December this year.

The meeting decided to upgrade Comilla Medical College and Hospital to a 500-bed hospital from 250-bed one as well as five district hospitals to 100-bed instead of 50 beds.

It also decided to set up 175 Union Health and Family Planning Centres and five new Mother and

Child Welfare Centres. Decision was also made to develop unani, ayurvedic and homeopathic medical colleges in the country.

Besides, a decision was taken to upgrade 'Continue Education Centres' in Chittagong and Barisal divisions to separate full-fledged nursing colleges, reopening of three Medical Assistant Training Schools and renaming of eight such training schools as training institutions for the improvement of nursing services.



BDF executives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bulbul Ahsan of Dhaka University Debating Society (DUDS) and Asif Newaz of North South Debating Club (NSDC) have been elected president and general secretary of the Bangladesh Debate Federation (BDF), says a press release.

Saif Chowdhury of Distri, chittagong has been elected vice president.

Representatives from Dhaka University, Chittagong University, Rajshahi University, Jahangirnagar University, North South University, Khulna University, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Vigarunessa Noon College, Holy Cross College, Dhaka College, Government Laboratory School and ST. Joseph High School will be included in the 17-member executive committee.

Qulkhwani



Dhaka, will be held today at her residence at 278/2, Elephant Road after Asr prayers, says a press release.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the doa mahfil and pray for the salvation of her departed soul.

DHAKA TODAY

Tagore song

Bangla Academy organises a session of Tagore song to mark the 62nd death anniversary of poet Rabindranath Tagore. Prof Anisur Rahman, a singer and researcher on Tagore, will perform on the occasion. Venue: Academy seminar room. Time: 11.00am.

Drawing competition

Rupali Tarar Mela will hold a drawing competition for the children to mark the Hiroshima Nagasaki Day. Venue: Shishu Academy. Time: 3.00pm.

Drama

The Centre for Asian Theatre will stage Eugene Ionesco's 'The Lesson' translated by Saidus Saklaen and directed by Mejrma Reuter (UK). Venue: Goethe Institut auditorium. Time: 7.00pm.

Discussion on Tagore

Bishwa Sahitya Kendra organises a discussion on 'Poverty alleviation the Tagore way' to mark the 62nd death anniversary of poet Rabindranath Tagore. Economist Dr Altair Rahman will present the keynote paper. Litterateur Selina Hossain, Prof. Syed Manzoorul Islam and economist Dr Anisur Rahman will take part in the discussion. Venue: Bishwa Sahitya Kendra auditorium. Time: 5.00pm.

Peace rally

The Anti-Genocide Organisation, a human rights organisation, will arrange a peace rally and form a human chain on the occasion of Hiroshima Day-2003. Venue: Mukhtangan. Time: 10.00am.

Film show

Academy Film Society will screen a film titled 'Phone Booth'. Venue: 21/C, Jhigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

Cultural function

In observance of the 62nd death anniversary of poet Rabindranath Tagore, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy organises a discussion and cultural function, with eminent educationist Dr Ashraf Siddiqui as chief guest. Venue: Academy premises, Segun Bagicha. Time: 5.30pm.

Seminar

The Bangladesh Polytechnic Teachers Association will hold a seminar on

'Quality assurance in technical education to meet global challenges - Bangladesh perspective'. Venue: TTC Conference Room. Time: 10.30am.

Discussion

The Bangladesh Peace Council organises a discussion to mark the Hiroshima Nagasaki Day. Venue: TSC of Dhaka University. Time: 5.00pm.

Blood donation camp

Cambridge Academy organises a voluntary blood donation camp. Venue: Cambridge Academy Centre, Mouchak Market. Time: 11.00am to 6.00pm.

Human chain

The Communist Party of Bangladesh will form a human chain protesting the move to make over one lakh employees of state-owned mills and factories redundant. Venue: Shapla roundabout, Motijheel. Time: 3.30pm.

Memorial meeting

The Bangladesh committee of World Trade Union Federation will hold a discussion in memory of late Deb Kumar Ganguly, deputy general secretary of the federation. Venue: Tajul auditorium, Moni Singh-Farhad Trust Bhawan, Purana Paltan. Time: 4.00pm.

DHAKA TOMORROW

Musical evening

The Russian Cultural Centre and the Bishwabena jointly organise a musical evening dedicated to the 62nd death anniversary of poet Rabindranath Tagore. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, House # 510, Road # 7, Dhanmondi. Time: 6.00pm.

Drama

The Centre for Asian Theatre will stage Eugene Ionesco's 'The Lesson' translated by Saidus Saklaen and directed by Mejrma Reuter (UK). Venue: Goethe Institut auditorium. Time: 7.00pm.

Founding anniversary

The Dhanmondi Poribesh Unnayan Jote organises a programme to celebrates its first anniversary. Sajed Kamal of International Consortium for Energy Development will present a slide show on the solar revolution. Venue: BETS auditorium. Time: 4.00pm.



PHOTO: STAR

Dhaka Ainjibi Samity stages a demonstration in the city yesterday demanding withdrawal of provision of mandatory submission of income tax return for the lawyers.

WEATHER TODAY

Light to moderate rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions till 6pm today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 36.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and the lowest 24.4 degree at Tangail.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:39pm today and rises at 5:30am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	34.3	28.0	64	60
Chittagong	34.2	26.0	71	70
Rajshahi	34.3	28.0	77	72
Khulna	34.8	27.1	70	70
Barisal	33.5	27.0	75	69
Sylhet	34.6	26.2	69	70
Cox's Bazar	33.4	26.5	69	82